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Icarus and Daedalus A Greek Myth

Narrative

Warm up Questions:

- Copy the title of the story onto your wipe board. Underline the two main characters (Icarus, Daedalus). Do you think they are English?
- What else tells us this is not an English Story? (Greek)
- What country is it from? (Greece)
- What type of story is it? (myth)
- Is a myth a true story or a made up story? (made up)
- What does the word ancient mean? Thousands, hundreds or tens of years old? (thousands)

Main Questions:

- 1. Why does the writer liken Icarus and Daedalus to 'songbirds trapped in a golden cage'?
- 2. Why do you think the cage is 'golden'?
- 3. Where did Daedalus get his idea? Draw your answer.
- 4. Why do you think the two characters collected the feathers at night?
- 5. Why do you think Icarus slept while his father made the wings?
- 6. When did they set off on their journey? (dawn)
- 7. Why do you think they chose this time of day? (first light, cooler)
- 8. Why do you think Daedalus stepped off the cliff first?
- 9. What was Daedalus trying to say by warning Icarus?
- 10. What was happening to the wax when Icarus flew nearer to the sun?

Inferential

Essential Vocabulary:

- Find the word 'plummeted'. Does it mean to fall slowly or to fall very fast? (very fast) Show your teacher
- Can you find the simile in the next sentence that adds to this effect? ('like a stone')
- What other similes can you find in the text? Highlight them. ('like songbirds trapped in a cage', 'like eagles they soared', 'like tears from the sky')
- Find a word that shows the writer likens the melting wax to water. ('drip', 'river', tears')
- When Icarus begins to fly, how does the writer liken him to a bird in the way that he speaks? ('squawked')
- Find a word that means 'jealousy' in the first paragraph. ('envy')

Evaluative Questions:

- Why do you think Icarus fell to his death? What can we learn from this story today?
- Is it always easy to listen to an adult giving you advice?
- Why do you think the Greek myths have survived so long? Do you think people will continue to read them in the future?
- Read the second to last paragraph. Draw Daedalus' face.
- Now read the final paragraph. Do you need to change your picture? How?





